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LETTER DATED 11 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF UGANDA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued by the Government of Uganda on 10 September 1996 concerning the Agreement on the Settlement of Disputes and the Normalization of Relations between Uganda and the Sudan.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and the text of the statement circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Semakula KIWANUKA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Statement by the Government of the Republic of Uganda concerning the Agreement on Settlement of Disputes and the Normalization of Relations between Uganda and the Sudan

On 8 September 1996, a meeting was held at Khartoum, chaired by H.E. Dr. Ali Akbar Vellati, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and attended by Honourable Eriya Kategaya, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uganda, and H.E. Ali Othman Mohammed Taha, Minister of External Relations of the Republic of the Sudan. The meeting was a continuation of the previous meetings and agreements as mediated by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the Republic of Malawi.

At the end of the meeting, an Agreement was signed by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Uganda and the Sudan, witnessed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the presence of H.E. Akbar Mashemi Rafsanjani, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran and H.E. Omar Bashir, President of the Republic of the Sudan.

Main areas of agreement

The two countries agreed on the following:

1. To cease immediately all campaigns of official negative propaganda against each other, bilaterally or at any forum.

2. To cease to provide territory to be used by belligerent forces against each other's country.

3. To refrain from providing support directly or indirectly to belligerent forces opposed to each other's Government.

4. To disarm and dismantle bases and logistics centres of belligerent groups of either of the two countries in the territory of the other.

5. To remove all belligerent groups and all refugees from the common border to a distance not less than 100 kilometres from the common border.

6. That each country should enhance and facilitate the voluntary repatriation of refugees.

7. That, in order to ensure supervision over the implementation of the present Agreement, a verification team, comprising representatives of the two sides, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and, if they accept, the Republic of Malawi and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, shall be established in the capitals of the two countries. The team shall submit its reports on various areas to the Ministerial Committee.

8. The verification team shall determine its mode of operation to ensure rapid action. The necessary facilities, such as helicopters, for the speedy dispatch of the verification team to areas where military presence and/or movements are reported shall be provided by the Government of the host country.

9. Each of the two countries shall make available areas of its territory for the stationing of the verification team.

10. In case of receipt of reports of violation of the understanding in the present Agreement by either side, the verification team, in the presence of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Malawi, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya or any one of the said three parties, shall investigate and visit the reported location and submit its report to the Ministerial Committee for necessary decision and action. For their part, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Malawi and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya shall assign two military delegations in the capitals of the two countries for the purpose of carrying out this function.

11. The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the three countries agreed to meet in New York during the course of the fifty-first session of the United Nations General Assembly to review the latest situation and the progress of the implementation of the present Agreement. They further agreed to meet once every six months on a rotational basis in the capitals of the three countries to review the progress of the implementation of the present Agreement and to help expedite the process of normalization and cooperative relationship. The meeting following the one in New York will be held in December 1996 in Uganda.

12. A three-member delegation from each of the three countries shall meet in the Islamic Republic of Iran on 30 September 1996 to determine the mission status of the verification team.

13. The Republic of the Sudan and the Republic of Uganda reiterated their resolve to implement the provisions of the Agreement.

14. The Agreement came into force following signature on 9 September 1996.

The Government of the Republic of Uganda wishes to see full compliance with the terms of the Agreement and awaits progress made in its implementation before any normalization of diplomatic relations with the Sudan can be considered.